

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 16th March 1895.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
BENGALI.					
<i>Tri-monthly.</i>					
1	"Abodh Bodhini" ...	Calcutta ...	About 677		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Banganivasi" ...	Ditto ...	" 5,000	8th March 1895.	
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	" 20,000	9th ditto.	
3	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	" 4,000	8th ditto.	
4	"Jnāndāyikā" ...	Ditto ...	.....	8th ditto.	
5	"Mihir" ...	Ditto ...	.....	6th ditto.	
6	"Sahachar" ...	Ditto ...	" 500	8th ditto.	
7	"Samay" ...	Ditto ...	" 4,000	9th ditto.	
8	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	" 3,000	8th ditto.	
9	"Som Prakash" ...	Ditto ...	" 800		
10	"Sudhakar" ...	Ditto ...	" 3,000		
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	"Banga Vidya Prakashika" ...	Ditto ...	" 200	8th and 12th to 14th March 1895.	
2	"Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika." ...	Ditto ...	" 200	10th to 14th March 1895.	
3	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	" 500	9th, 11th, 12th and 14th March 1895.	
4	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	" 200		
5	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto ...	" 1,000	7th to 9th, 12th and 13th March 1895.	
HINDI.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Ditto ...	" 800	7th March 1895.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto ...	" 9,000	4th and 7th March 1895.	
3	"Uchit Vakta" ...	Ditto ...	.....	
PERSIAN.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Hublul Mateen" ...	Ditto ...	.....	.....	Defunct.
URDU.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide." ...	Ditto ...	" 400	7th March 1895.	
2	"General and Gauhariasfi" ...	Ditto ...	" 300	8th ditto.	
BENGALI.					
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	"Basana" ...	Chinsura ...	400		
2	"Purnima" ...	Hooghly ...	500		
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	" 500		
2	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria ...	" 298		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	350 to 400	5th March 1895.	
2	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura ...	500		
3	"Darsak" ...	Ditto ...	.....	10th ditto.	
4	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	754	8th ditto.	
BENGALI.					
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	"Ghosak" ...	Khulna ...	350		
2	"Sat Sanga" ...	Murshidabad ...	200		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Hitaishi" ...	Murshidabad ...	280		
2	"Murshidabad Patrika" ...	Ditto ...	350		
3	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ...	Berhampore ...	200		
4	"Pratikar" ...	Ditto ...	603		
5	"Samaj-o-Sahitya" ...	Garibpur, Nadia ...	1,000	8th March 1895.	

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
URIYA.		ORISSA DIVISION.			
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	"Shikshabandhu" ...	Cuttack ...	.....	No. 5, Pt. IV.	Only six copies have been issued since the paper was revived in January 1894. Some 200 copies of each issue are said to have been circulated, but no subscribers have been registered. This paper is said to have some circulation in the Division, but the number of subscribers could not be ascertained.
2	"Utkalprabhā" ...	Mayurbhunj ...	3		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	190	31st January and 7th February 1895.	
2	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	309	30th January and 6th February 1895.	
3	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Cuttack ...	412	2nd and 9th February 1895.	
4	"Sambalpur Patriot" ...	Bamra in the Central Provinces.	.....	.....
HINDI.		PATNA DIVISION.			
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipur ...	500		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Aryāvarta" ...	Dinapur ...	1,000	9th March 1895.	
URDU.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch" ...	Bankipur ...	500	7th ditto.	
2	"Gaya Punch" ...	Gaya ...	400	4th ditto.	
3	"Mehre Monawar" ...	Muzaffarpur ...	150		
BENGALI.		RAJSHAHI DIVISION.			
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bagura Darpan" ...	Bogra ...	.....	6th ditto.	
2	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	283		
3	"Rangpur Dikprakash" ...	Kakina, Rangpur ...	300		
HINDI.					
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	150	.....	It is said that 550 copies of the paper are printed each month. Out of this number 150 copies are distributed among the subscribers and the rest sold to the public at three pies per copy.
BENGALI.		DACCA DIVISION.			
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Kasipur, Barisal ...	280	26th February 1895.	
2	"Bangabandhu" ...	Dacca ...	250		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	900	5th March 1895.	
2	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	450	10th ditto.	
3	"Saraswat Patra" ...	Ditto ...	250	9th ditto.	
4	"Vikrampur" ...	Lauhajangha, Dacca ..	500	7th ditto.	
5	"Bharatvasi" ...	Dacca ...	500		
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Ditto ...	500	11th ditto.	
BENGALI.		CHITTAGONG DIVISION.			
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	120	1st and 8th March 1895.	
BENGALI.		ASSAM.			
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	"Paridarshak" ...	Sylhet ...	240		* Entries based on information supplied by the Deputy Postmaster-General, Assam.
2	"Srihattavasi" ...	Ditto ...	* 160	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Assam" ...	Gauhati ...	700*		

I—FOREIGN POLITICS.

IN reference to the rumoured present of 26,000 muskets made to the Nepal Government by the Government of India, the *Hindi Bangavasi* of the 11th March wonders how it is that the British Government, which cannot trust its own subjects with firearms, has made such a large present of the same to an independent native State.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 11th, 1895.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. A correspondent of the *Charu Mihir* of the 5th March says that in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district the police have, in the villages within their jurisdiction, houses which serve as their *addas* (places of gathering) on the occasion of their visits to those villages. The owners of these houses act as middlemen between the police and the people, and compound theft and other cases in concert with the former. Babu Girindra Nath Chatterjee, a former Deputy Magistrate of Tangail, suppressed these *addas*, but they have again revived, and the present Deputy Magistrate of the sub-division is asked to keep a sharp eye upon them.

CHARU MIHIR,
March 5th, 1895.

3. The *Sahachar* of the 6th March says that, by discouraging the employment of Bengalis in the higher ranks of the Police Service, the Government of India has done an improper thing. As the Government of Madras has allowed natives to compete for District Police Superintendships and other high posts in the Police Service, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal should have done the same thing, for Bengalis are in no way inferior to the people of the Madras Presidency. Government has admitted their fitness by appointing them to high posts in the Judicial Service, but in the matter of appointment in the higher ranks of the Police Service, their claims have been rejected both by the Bengal and the Supreme Government. There is no doubt that Bengalis are fit for the upper grades of the Police Service, nay, they are fitter for those grades than many Europeans who now fill them and whom they excel in education and general efficiency. There are for instance very few Europeans who are as efficient District Superintendents of Police as the late Babu Jagadis Nath Ray was. As regards the European Assistant Police Superintendents, their qualifications do not seem to be of a high order, and they are inferior in point of ability to first class Bengali Police Inspectors. Even among the European District Police Superintendents, there are many who failed to enter the Civil Service, and obtained their appointments in the Police Service through the good offices of their highly placed friends and relatives. Besides every one of these officers is wanting in that essential element of efficiency which consists in the possession of an intimate acquaintance with the habits and customs of the people. On the other hand, many of the Bengalis who have entered the Police Service are fitted by their superior educational qualifications for service in its higher ranks. The charge that they are wanting in physical courage is unfounded, for it is well-known that without their assistance no European District Superintendent can do the most important part of his duty. The Government of India is asked to relax to some extent its resolution regarding the employment of natives in the upper ranks of the Police Service, and to throw open those ranks to public competition. Without the employment of educated natives in the upper ranks of the Police Service, that service will be neither popular nor improved in its moral tone.

SAHACHAR,
March 6th, 1895.

4. The *Hitavadi* of the 8th March refers to the affray between the military grass-cutters and the people of Sonamukhi, a village near Mahestala, in the 24-Parganas district, in which one of the former has lost his life and says:—

HITAVADI,
March 8th, 1895.

Though the people repeatedly petitioned Government against the oppression by the grass-cutters, nothing was done to put it down, and they have now committed a murder in their exasperation. It is said that the Magistrate repeatedly drew the attention of the military authorities to the matter, but to no

purpose. It is, therefore, Government who is responsible for the crime which has been committed at Sonamukhi. The duty of enquiring into the facts of the case should be entrusted not to a lower grade, but to an honest higher grade officer.

BANGANIVASI,
March 8th, 1895.

5. In a notice of the performance of the drama "Rajani," in the Bengal Theatre, the *Banganivasi* of the 8th March says that the conversation between Hira Lal, a male character, and Champa a female character is extremely obscene, and ought to be modified. The gestures of Lavangalata, a female character, towards Ramsaday were also rather obscene.

Obscenity in a play in the Bengal Theatre.

SUDHAKAR,
March 8th, 1895.

6. The *Sudhakar* of the 8th March says that for Government to exclude natives from the higher posts in the Police Service would be to show a want of respect for the pledge given by the Queen that no distinction of colour or creed shall be made in the matter of appointments to the public service, upon which the Indian people found their claim to equality with Englishmen.

Natives in the higher offices of the Police Department.

Indians fail to see wherein they are inferior to Englishmen. At any rate, it is certain that if appointment to high posts depends upon success in competitive examinations, Englishmen will be completely ousted by Indians.

As a result of certain discussions in Parliament in regard to the claims of Indians to the higher posts in the public service, a commission was appointed, and that commission declared Indians fit for the highest posts in the public service.

But the Government of India now defends the exclusion of Indians from the higher appointments in the Police Service on the ground that it is fitting that the higher officers in that service, who have to discharge political functions of high importance and responsibility, should be Englishmen, and that this is all the more necessary in a country in which the people quarrel among themselves. This means that Government doubts both the loyalty and the ability of Indians, or it would not consider them unfit to be entrusted with responsible functions and with the work of maintaining the peace. Or is the writer to understand that Government does not mean what it says, and that what it says, it says only to establish the claims of Englishmen to the higher appointments in the police?

Government clearly refers here to the quarrels between Hindus and Musalmans; but such quarrels may, in the writer's opinion, be best put an end to by the intervention of native police officers. Even if any serious difficulty arises there will be officers above these high native officers just as there will be such officers above the high European officers, and these superior officers, at any rate, can be expected to do their duty. Be that as it may, Government would have done better if it had plainly said that natives must not expect the higher posts in the Police Service, which are intended for Englishmen, instead of saying the thing in such a circuitous way.

The writer did not expect this from Lord Elgin's Government. He prays that respect may be shown for the Queen's Proclamation by throwing open the higher posts in the Police Service to competition. If education and horsemanship are not the proper qualifications for these posts, let Government declare what other qualifications it requires. Government may rest assured that whatever its requirements, natives will not shrink from fulfilling them.

SANSODHINI,
March 8th, 1895.

7. The *Sansodhini* of the 8th March says that people's life, property and honour will not be safe in Chittagong town so long as that town does not get a more efficient police and the *gundas* (roughs) are not put down. A mere mention of the horrible things that are taking place in the very front of the police station, and before the Magisterial and Collectorate Courts, is enough to curdle one's blood. When one contemplates these things one cannot help suspecting that it is in the dominion of some witch, and not in English territory, that he must be living, and one cannot help feeling that it would be better to leave this country. During the last four or five months there took place in the town the Kanti Babu affair, the death of Tilottama, and the death of the youth Jan Ali. But what occurred on the 3rd March last was more serious still. On the day in question, at about 10 P.M., the local Deputy Magistrate, Mr. D. N. Mukharji, together with three other gentlemen, were waiting for a hackney carriage on

Ruffianism in Chittagong town.

the spot near the police station where three roads meet, when they saw a carriage stop at some distance from them. Three youths bounced out of the carriage and ran westward. Another youth also soon after jumped out of the carriage and proceeded the way his companions had taken. This last youth, however, soon returned and assaulted the Deputy Magistrate, Mr. Mukharji, who, in his turn, caught hold of his adversary. The man, however, managed to get away leaving his wrapper with the Deputy Magistrate and retreating to some distance, stood there. Mr. Mukharji then went up to the carriage, and finding a woman seated within asked her who she was. But she did not speak, and the youth kept blustering and threatening the Deputy Magistrate from where he stood. The Deputy Magistrate took down the number of the carriage and went to the thana. When returning from the thana with constables he met with the carriage and seized it. Then the youth implored the Deputy Magistrate's pardon. Mr. Mukharji has reported the whole affair to the District Magistrate, who has ordered a police enquiry. What is most strange is that no constable could be met with during the whole course of this occurrence. The *paharawallas* of the town show their activity only in taking cattle to pounds and in seizing rice-carts, both of which works they find paying. If the Magistrate once goes round the town at night, he will find how neglectful the police is of its duties, and what disorderly bodies of men walk the streets.

It should be ruled that after 10 P.M. no one shall come out without a light, or with a stick, or in bodies of 5 or 6 without some good reason, or with a prostitute. Unless this rule is strictly enforced, life and property will not be safe in the town.

8. The Mahestala correspondent of the *Sanjivani* of the 9th March writes as follows:—

SANJIVANI,
March 9th, 1895.

The Mahestala grass-cutting incident.

On the 28th February last, four or five military grass-cutters at Nangigram near the Mahestala outpost in the 24 Parganas district attacked a *chaukidar* for having opposed them in committing oppression on the people. But as a number of *chaukidars* were present in the outpost at the time, they came to the scene on receiving information from a school-boy and arrested the grass-cutters.

On the next day the grass-cutters commenced cutting *ulu* grass growing on land which belongs to one Swarup Naskar, in spite of the protests of the owner, and let loose their horses to graze on the *kalai* field belonging to the same man. The protests of the villagers led the grass cutters to abuse them; and the abuse brought on a quarrel, and ultimately a fight between the parties, in which one grass-cutter was killed on the spot and another severely wounded. Information was immediately given to the police, who are now conducting an investigation. But it is clear from the manner in which the investigation is being carried on, that many innocent persons will be implicated. It is, therefore, requested that the Magistrate will depute some higher officer to conduct the investigation.

The oppressions committed by the grass-cutters have been regularly reported in the newspapers, and came to the notice of Government in the case of Lakshman Chandra Mukharji, in which the accused *havildar* was, through mercy, let off by the High Court. But the villagers upon whom the oppressions have been committed have as yet obtained no redress. They patiently submitted to every wrong; but at last the oppression became too much for them to bear, and in the absence of any redress from Government, they quarrelled with the grass-cutters and killed one of them. It now remains to see what view the authorities take of this fatal incident. In the case which will be instituted against the villagers, it ought to be carefully borne in mind that they did not wilfully murder the man.

One fails to understand why, in spite of repeated complaints of oppression from the villagers, Government has not yet taken up separate lands for the supply of grass for the use of the Military Department. The number of *havildars* stationed in Bengal has greatly increased of late, and it has, in consequence, become absolutely necessary to take up such lands.

The grass-cutters are still going on cutting grass; but to allow them to do so is simply to afford them fresh opportunities for committing oppression and cause fresh quarrels with the people.

SANJIVANI,
March 9th, 1895.

9. Abinash Chandra Mukherji, a vaccinator and resident of Balsi Krishnabati, in the Bankura district, writes, in the same paper, to say that on the night of the 1st February last, while resting at Dwarikagram on his way to Ramsagar, he was attacked by a gang of 10 or 12 dacoits and robbed of everything he had. In the morning a villager returned to him the few pieces of cloth that had been robbed, but nothing else. On going to the Vishnupur thana to lodge a complaint, the correspondent was told that the police would not entertain a complaint from Dwarikagram, as crimes committed in that village could not be traced.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BANGAKIVASI,
March 8th, 1895.

10. Referring to the case of Rai Damodar Das *versus* Lord Beresford, the *Banganivasi* of the 8th March writes as follows:—
The case of Rai Damodar Das *versus* Lord Beresford. Will not Rai Damodar Das get even a hearing in the law courts? We are not speaking of his getting justice, but will he not, a subject of Her Majesty as he is, get even a trial of his case? Amritsar being the place of occurrence, the case should have been heard in the courts there. But Colonel Lang refused to entertain the complaint. The Magistrate of Lahore also gave a similar refusal. The Calcutta High Court too, on being moved, returned a similar answer. In the meantime Lord Beresford, who is too big a personage to pay heed to the complaint against him, has left for England. What is to be done in regard to the case he will do in England. There he will take the advice of lawyers, and make what answer he thinks fit. Not improbably, he may have the case transferred to England if he finds it going against him. And Rai Damodar Das, on his part, may at last find it convenient to forget and forgive, and thus put an end to the affair. But why should such a miscarriage of justice take place so long as there is the High Court to dispense justice? Let the High Court summon Lord Beresford back to India, and hold a fair trial of the case. If this is not done, the history of this case will constitute a lasting stigma on the judicial administration of the country.

BANGAVASI,
March 9th, 1895.

11. The *Banganivasi* of the 9th March says that, though Lord Beresford was long in Government service in this country, he has paid very poor regard to constituted authority by embarking for England on receiving a summons in the case of the Extra Assistant Commissioner, Damodar Das. Has his Lordship acted nobly and courageously by leaving the country in this fashion. Lala Damodar Das will now be able to see what the spirit of British rule is, if he has not already done so from his long experience as a Deputy Hakim.

BANGAVASI.

12. The same paper says that one Babu Pramatha Nath Mitra, who had failed to appear as a juror in the 24-Parganas Sessions, in consequence of his having gone to Gaya to perform *sradh*s, applied to Mr. Knox Wight for a remission of the fine which was inflicted upon him. But the Judge, whilst excusing the fine, remarked that the reason assigned for his non-attendance was not sufficient, considering the gravity of the public duty the juror was required to perform. This is really alarming news for Hindus. The High Court can be closed half-a-day for the marriage of a Judge's daughter, but a Hindu cannot be exempted from serving as a juror on the ground of his having to perform *sradh* ceremonies!

(d)—Education.

CHARU MIHIR,
March 5th, 1895.

13. The *Charu Mihir* of the 5th March has the following about technical schools in Bengal:—

Technical education in Bengal. In the course of his report on the condition of technical education in the country, Sir Alfred Croft approves of Mr. Slater's suggestion regarding the desirability of the different technical schools being affiliated to the Sibpur Engineering College and of their being supplied with teachers from that College. Sir Alfred is also of opinion that District Boards should found scholarships enabling the students of local technical schools to continue their studies in the Sibpur College. If these

suggestions are carried out, the status of these schools will improve, and they may be made independent of the Sibpur College. With the improvement in the standard of their teaching, new sources of livelihood will be opened in the country, and the students turned out by the technical schools will get a large field for the exercise of their professional skill. May this prediction of Sir Alfred be fulfilled. As remarked by him, considering the rapid advance which India is now making in the direction of material prosperity, the technical schools have a bright future before them. Want of scientific instruments is now much felt in the technical schools, and the Sibpur College cannot remove this want. It will therefore be well for that college, as well as for the technical schools in the country, to have their instruments manufactured at Sibpur. The public in this country have not yet been able to understand the object of the technical schools, and no improvement of these schools can be looked for, so long as a healthy public opinion does not grow up in their favour. The teaching in these schools should be improved by including in their curriculum sculpture, trigonometry, mensuration, manufacture of machinery, &c. Government has accepted Sir Alfred Croft's report, and much good will be done to the country if it gives effect to the suggestions contained in it.

14. The *Sahachar* of the 6th March says that the Director of Public

SAHACHAR,
March 6th, 1895.

Proposed withdrawal of grants from the Calcutta Middle English and Middle Vernacular schools.

Instruction contemplates withdrawing all Government grant from the Calcutta Middle English and Middle Vernacular schools, and has addressed a circular to those schools enquiring as to what extent they will suffer by such withdrawal. Now as there are twenty of these schools in Calcutta, and each of them receives a grant of Rs. 20 a month, the saving that can be effected will be Rs. 400 a month. But for the sake of this paltry saving, the interests of the schools will be materially injured, and the cause of vernacular education will suffer. If any saving of expenditure on education be needed, it may be effected by stopping the aid which is given to the School Book Society and the *Education Gazette* newspaper, neither of which now deserves to be supported with State help.

15. The *Samay* of the 8th March says that in the mufassal a Middle

SAMAY,
March 8th, 1895.

Management of Middle English, Middle Vernacular, and Upper Primary schools in the mufassal.

English school costs on an average Rs. 60 a month. Of this sum, one-third is realised from fees, one-third is supplied by a grant from the District Board, and the remaining one-third, Rs. 20, has to be raised by subscriptions. But it is difficult in a village which is so poor as to be unable to keep more than one Middle English school, to raise Rs. 20 per month by that means, and the question therefore arises, how do schools of this kind manage to live? They live much in the same way as Nihilism lives in England, as Thuggeeism lived in India, and as some of the worst religious sects now live in Bengal. The fact is, people now value service above all things, and men are not wanting willing to humiliate themselves for the sake of service. The educated young men, in indigent circumstances, who serve in these schools, can be induced by means of flattery and cajolery, to do any and every questionable thing. It is thus a pity that the men who are entrusted with the duty of instilling moral principles into the minds of children, have their own hearts corrupted by the low trickery of the proprietors of these schools. These remarks apply *mutatis mutandis* to Middle Vernacular and Upper Primary schools in the mufassal as well.

16. The *Mihir* of the 8th March makes the following remarks on the last

MIHIR,
March 8th, 1895.

The Calcutta Madrassa.

Annual Report of the Calcutta Madrassa:—

(1) The Principal of the Madrassa should have given satisfactory reasons for the falling off in the number of students during the year under report. So far as the writer is aware, this falling off was due to the fact that, forced by the agitation that took place last year regarding the working of the Madrassa, the authorities at about the end of the session degraded a large number of students to a lower class, and thus compelled them to leave the school. This would not have happened if the Principal and the teachers had taken proper care of the students throughout the year. The writer objects to the practice recently introduced of setting composition exercises in English to the boys of the school classes, because this leaves them little time to get up their book lessons. The present Principal seems to be a

man who has little experience in educational matters, or he would not have introduced such a practice in the school classes.

(2) It is for the first time that the writer hears of moral instruction being given to the Madrassa boys once a week.

(3) The Principal's statements regarding the physical training of the boys are satisfactory. But unfortunately the Muhammadan community at large take little interest in the matter. At the last anniversary of the Madrassa Sporting Club, to which the Lieutenant-Governor and a large number of Muhammadan gentlemen were invited, His Honour found nobody except the Principal and the students, and he therefore went away after a short stay.

SANJIVANI,
March 9th, 1895.

The Bengali to English translation at the Entrance Examination.

17. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th March says that this is how the Bengali to English translation paper is set at the Entrance Examination, and how the answers to that paper are examined:—

The Head Examiner in English selects one or more passages from an English book or newspaper. These passages are translated into the Indian vernaculars by men who know those languages; and the translations are set to the candidates for retranslation into English. For the purposes of the examination, the examiners, some of whom do not know even a single Indian vernacular, assign marks by merely comparing the answers with the original passages selected by the Head Examiner, without any reference to the vernacular passages which the candidates have translated. It need hardly be pointed out that a retranslation into English of a vernacular passage, which has been itself arrived at by a strictly literal and in some cases meaningless translation of an English passage, must necessarily differ largely in point of form from the original passage in English, even if the vernacular translation has been accurately and faithfully made, which, as a matter of fact, is not always the case.

It is easy to guess therefore what injustice is thus done to the candidates. Ought not such a curious system of examination to be modified or entirely abolished?

SULABH DAINIK,
March 13th, 1895.

18. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 13th March has learnt from the *Sahachar* that Sir Alfred Croft has addressed a letter to every Middle school in Calcutta which receives aid from Government, requesting to be informed whether the discontinuance of such aid will affect its interests. Has Sir Alfred issued this letter of his own motion, or under orders from his Chief? Will he act wisely in injuring the small schools in Calcutta at the close of his tenure of office? But it will be a different thing altogether if he be acting under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor. Will the *Education Gazette* enlighten the public on the subject?

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

SANSODHINI,
March 1st, 1895.

19. The *Sansodhini* of the 1st March says:—That the expenditure of the Chittagong District Board for providing medical aid for native women is out of all proportion to its expenditure for providing medical aid for the general body of ratepayers, will appear from the fact that, while it spends only Rs. 3,570 every year on its seven mufassal hospitals, it spends no less than Rs. 2,140 every year for the maintenance of a European lady doctor. The Comilla Board is far wiser in this respect. It spends Rs. 9,601 every year on its mufassal hospitals, and only Rs. 600 for the medical treatment of women.

It cannot be said that people have derived any great benefit from the maintenance of this lady doctor. Respectable women do not come to the Municipal hospital for treatment by the lady doctor; nor are people much inclined to call in as private practitioner the lady who charges a fee of Rs. 32 for each visit.

A skilful lady doctor is certainly much needed in Chittagong, where a large number of mothers and infants die for want of skilful midwives. But this requirement may be fulfilled at a much less cost by the employment of a lady doctor who has passed the examination of the Campbell Medical School.

20. The *Darussallanat and Urdu Guide* of the 7th March says that, as the celebration of the Muhammadan festival Id-ul-fitr takes place on the 28th or 29th of this month, the Calcutta Municipality should supply water to the whole town by 12 o'clock midnight preceding the festival day.

DARUSSALLANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
March 7th, 1895.

A representation to the Calcutta Municipality.

21. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th March says that, considering the violence with which small-pox is raging in Calcutta, it is the duty of the Calcutta Municipality to make arrangements for house-to-house vaccination free of charge, for there are innumerable poor families who would not go to the vaccination depôts, and yet could not pay the charge of being vaccinated at home.

SANJIVANI,
March 9th, 1895.

Free house-to-house vaccination necessary in Calcutta.

(h)—General.

22. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 7th March has heard it rumoured that on Mr. Risley's return to India in the end of March, Mr. Bourdillon, who is now officiating for him, will be appointed Commissioner of the Burdwan Division. It is not yet known, however, whether Mr. Dutt will in that case have to revert to a District Magistrateship. But considering the ability with which Mr. Dutt administered the Mymensingh and Backergunge districts, and his high attainments, the Lieutenant-Governor ought to bring him over to the Bengal Secretariat, at least for a time, in order to test his abilities.

SULABH DAINIK
March 7th, 1895.

Mr. Dutt after Mr. Risley's return.

23. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 8th March has the following regarding Lord Elgin's administration:—

SULABH DAINIK,
March 8th, 1895.

Lord Elgin's administration. His Excellency's descent from Bruce and his success in the administration of Canada had raised hopes in the mind of the writer that, as Governor-General of India, he would not succumb to Anglo-Indian influence, and would conquer the hearts of all by the independence and sense of duty which are characteristic of his family, country and high office. But the acts of His Excellency's administration have dispelled these hopes. Lord Elgin committed his first mistake by holding a Durbar at Lahore, which cost lots of money without serving any useful purpose. It was hoped that the Maharaja of Cashmere would be restored to full power in the Durbar, but that hope has not been realised. His Excellency's next act was to ruin the Indian cloth mills by the imposition of an excise duty on indigenous cotton goods. While imposing the duty, Lord Elgin plainly stated that he has no independence whatever, and that he is simply an order-bearer of the Secretary of State. Again, though there have been interpellations in the Bengal Council about the oppressive conduct of Messrs. Beatson Bell and Radice, Lord Elgin has taken no steps to punish these officials. Nor has he done anything to put an end to the oppressions and irregularities connected with the quarrels between Hindus and Musalmans. By passing the Police Act Amendment Bill, His Excellency has blasted every hope of good government during his administration. Though there was almost universal opposition against the measure, it was allowed to pass. The passing of the orders relating to the trial of non-British European residents, which completed what the Ilbert Act left unaccomplished, forms another indictment against His Excellency. All these things compel the writer to say that the acts of Lord Elgin's administration during the past year have not fulfilled the hopes that were raised by his appointment to the Viceroyalty.

24. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 11th March has the following:—

DACCA GAZETTE,
March 11th, 1895.

'Government's bribes.'

The press and the Government are in reality friends to each other. But in every civilised country constant opposition goes on between the two; for, if the press becomes powerful, the Government is in danger of becoming weak, and if the Government usurps exorbitant powers, the press runs the risk of becoming weak. Neither of these two things is, however, desirable, and hence the opposition. As a matter of fact, however, the press very often comes under the power of the Government, for Government is invariably more powerful than the press. Thus, the *Punjab Patriot* has become an organ of Government. At one time an attempt was made to reduce the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* to a similar position. The *Patrika* opposed Sir George Campbell's hobbies, and Sir George made

proposals for buying it up. Babu Kunjalal Banerji, then a Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, was requested to propose to the conductors of the paper the acceptance of a Government subsidy of Rs. 500 per month. But Babu Kunjalal plainly replied that it would be impossible to tempt the *Patrika* by threats or inducements. Sir George had in consequence to give up the idea.

The next attempt to buy up the *Patrika* was made by Sir Ashley Eden. Babu Kristo Das Pal brought the editor of the *Patrika* to Belvedere. The subject was proposed. But the editor of the *Patrika* at once replied that the country should contain at least one true and genuine newspaper. The reply offended Sir Ashley Eden, and he had the Press Act passed. But the moment the Press Act was passed, the *Patrika* changed its dress, came out in English, and thus baffled Sir Ashley.

Lord Dufferin was the next Indian ruler who tried to buy up some public papers to write against the *Babus* and the *Congress*. But, so far as the writer is aware, His Excellency succeeded in subsidising none but a few insignificant papers. It is strange that even a powerful Government like the Government of India should find it necessary to subsidise newspapers.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
March 11th, 1895.

25. In reference to Mr. Cotton's reply to Babu Surendra Nath's question in the Bengal Council regarding the appointment of a native Under-Secretary to the Local Government, the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 11th March asks if the office of an Under-Secretary requires such exceptional ability as cannot be found in a native. Was the late Bunkim Chandra Chatterji removed from the Secretariat because he was not an able man? Why was Babu Rajendra Nath Mitra removed from the Secretariat? The principal duty of an Under Secretary is to draft letters, and everybody knows that there are in the Provincial Service many who can discharge that duty better than many Secretaries. Indeed, Mr. Cotton's reply was more defiant than reasonable.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
March 14th, 1895.

26. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 14th March says:—
According to the *Indian Mirror*, when Mr. Messrs. Bourdillon and Dutt. Risley returns from leave, the Hon'ble Mr. Bourdillon, who is now officiating for him, will be appointed to the Commissionership of the Burdwan Division, and the Hon'ble Mr. R. C. Dutt will have to go to Hooghly as Magistrate. It is also said in that paper that, as Mr. Dutt has incurred the Lieutenant-Governor's displeasure by his objections to the Public Demands Recovery Bill, he will have to make room for Mr. Bourdillon. To this it may be replied that as Mr. Bourdillon is Mr. Dutt's senior, his claims to the Burdwan Commissionership are superior to those of Mr. Dutt. This being so, there is no ground for the *Indian Mirror's* suspicion in the matter. Of course Mr. Dutt can be kept in the Commissionership and Mr. Bourdillon otherwise provided for. And if the Lieutenant-Governor desires some such plan, he will only give proof of his liberalmindedness, but he cannot be justly charged with doing injustice to Mr. Dutt, even if he gives the Commissionership to Mr. Bourdillon.

III —LEGISLATIVE.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 4th, 1895.

27. The *Hindi Bangavasi* of the 4th March says that the people of India feel a pride in abiding by the laws which are from time to time made for them by their rulers. Hardly a year passes which does not see some amendment or other of the Codes of Civil and Criminal Procedure; nevertheless the people abide by the amended law. It is only when their religion is interfered with by any amendment that they cry out for redress.

When the Consent Bill was introduced, the people cried out for redress, condemned the Bill as constituting a violation of the Hindu religion, and tried to have it rejected; but Lord Lansdowne's Government turned a deaf ear to the prayer of the public. During Lord Elgin's tenure of office, two remarkable legislative proposals attracted great attention from the Hindus, namely, the proposal emanating from a certain quarter for a law to regulate Hindu temple property, and the proposal for an amendment of the law relating to the enforcement of decrees for the restitution of conjugal rights. The people said that both the proposals, if carried, would certainly have interfered with the

Hindu religion. Lord Elgin, who is always anxious to act in conformity with public opinion, has rejected both these proposals, and is therefore entitled to the heartfelt gratitude of the Hindu public.

28. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 5th March has the following about the Sanitary Drainage Bill:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 5th 1895.

The Sanitary Drainage Bill.

As Government is determined to pass the Bill it is useless to oppose it. Let the Bill, therefore, be passed, but let no new tax be imposed on the people in consequence of its passing. The District Boards should be called upon to bear the entire cost of sanitary drains. Considering that Government now spends the proceeds of the Road Cess Fund on education and other matters, there can be no harm in its partially utilising the same on the construction of drains as well. If more money is required for the purpose than can be taken from the Road Cess Fund, the excess can be supplied from the proceeds of the public works cess. The writer would not have made a proposal of this nature if the people had not been poor and overburdened with taxation. As the Bill itself makes it discretionary for District Boards to contribute towards the expenses of drains, it is reasonable to hope that the members of the Council will find it an easy matter to procure for the people an exemption from the proposed drainage cess.

29. The *Charu Mihir* of the 5th March has the following about the Sanitary Drainage Bill as amended by the Select Committee:—

CHARU MIHIR,
March 5th, 1895.

The Sanitary Drainage Bill.

There is no clear provision in the Bill as to what is to be done when a silted up water-course is within the jurisdiction of two or more District Boards or other local bodies, and a difference of opinion arises among them regarding its reexcavation. It is desirable that the law should in such cases expressly prohibit re-excavation. The Select Committee propose to levy the cost of re-excavation only on raiyats and zamindars; but as nearly every village in Bengal has traders, weavers, fishermen and other classes of people, in addition to raiyats, it is not easy to see why they should enjoy exemption from the cost. Again, the Bill contains no provisions under which Railway Companies could be made liable for the cost of removing obstruction to drainage caused by railroads, and the Select Committee have held that the provisions of chapter III of Act IX of 1890, are sufficient as regards the responsibilities of those companies in this respect. But the provisions above referred to of Act IX of 1890 come into operation chiefly at the time of the construction of roads. As regards drains for the escape of water, when they have to be constructed ten years after the construction of a railroad, the Viceroy alone has the power under the Act to require the Railway Company concerned to undertake the work at their own cost. When the order for the construction of these drains comes from the Provincial Governments and local bodies, they themselves, and not the Railway Companies, must bear their cost. Such being the case, as the consequences of obstructed drainage in a locality begin to manifest themselves fifteen to twenty years after the construction of railroads there, it will be impossible, without a special provision of the law, to hold Railway Companies responsible for the cost of re-opening the water-courses which may have silted up in consequence of those roads. It is also doubtful whether or not the Bengal Council has the power to enact laws creating responsibilities for Railway Companies in this matter, but such laws are none the less indispensable in the interest of the country. Under the Bill, Government as well as the District Boards may, if they like, contribute to the cost of restoring drainage. But this is very uncertain and objectionable, seeing that they are not less interested in the matter than zamindars and agriculturists. And as the latter are already paying a tax, viz. the road-cess, which was imposed with the object of maintaining drainage, &c., it will not be just to assess them to a fresh tax for purposes of the proposed law. In the opinion of the writer, Government and the District Boards should each bear one-fourth of the total cost of construction mentioned in section 18 of the Bill. The Bill proposes to empower Government to appoint Engineers for the construction of the necessary works, but it contains no provision as to who should supervise the work of the Engineers. The work of supervision should be entrusted to the Collector, and then, if Government is made responsible for the cost, it will be its interest to see that the Collector's supervision is efficiently exercised. The special

provision contained in section 23 should be omitted, for it is likely to lead the Collector to make an apportionment larger than the actual cost incurred. It is clear from sub-section (b) of section 16, that three sets of officers will be appointed for the purposes of the proposed law. But this will be an unnecessarily costly arrangement, and one set of officers ought to be sufficient for all such purposes. Section 37 empowers the Collector to delegate his powers to the Deputy Collector, but in a case of such delegation an appeal ought to lie to the Collector from the orders of the Deputy Collector.

CHARU MIHIB,
March 5th, 1895.

30. The same paper approves of the proposal to segregate pauper lepers in asylums, and thinks that such segregation is demanded both in the interest of lepers and in that

The Lepers Bill.

of society at large.

SAHACHAR,
March 6th, 1895.

31. The *Sahachar* of the 6th March has the following:—

The Police Act Amendment Bill.

The Police Act Amendment Bill has been passed in the teeth of opposition from all India, and the redress now lies either with Parliament or with the Secretary of State. But as Parliament is on the eve of dissolution, it will not be advisable to appeal to it on the subject. All sections of the Indian public should therefore unite and petition the Secretary of State for a vetoing of the Act.

SULABH DAINIK,
March 7th, 1895.

32. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 7th March regrets that the Lieutenant-

The debate on the Police Act Amendment Bill.

Governor contented himself with characterising as flimsy and transparent the arguments which were adduced by Babu Mohini Mohun Roy and Messrs. Chitnavis and Mehta in favour of the rejection or amendment of the objectionable sections of the Police Act Amendment Bill, and did not bring forward any arguments himself to refute them. The Lieutenant-Governor may say anything he likes in his own Council, but should he not have been a little more careful in what he said in the august Council of the Viceroy? It was all very well for His Honour to make light of Babu Mohini Mohun's arguments, but was His Honour able to refute them? Very properly did Babu Mohini Mohun ask the Executive Government—"You have got the Civil and Criminal Courts, you have got the ordinary police and reserve police at your command, and military battalions at your back for the ordinary government of the country. You have got sufficient power and additional police under the Old Police Act of 1861 for emergencies. Have you not got enough and to spare?"

The writer clearly sees that the "strength of a giant," which the new law will confer on the Magistrates, will be abused by them, and will seriously interfere with the peace of the country. As Babu Mohini Mohun rightly said—"It is excellent to have the strength of a giant, but human nature often forgets that it is tyrannous to use it like a giant."

From the beginning, the writer knew that the Bill would be passed, especially as Sir Charles Elliott has always been fond of increasing the powers of his pet Magistrates, and of oppressing the people.

HITAVADI,
March 8th, 1895.

33. The *Hitavadi* of the 8th March refers to the passing of the Police

The Police Act Amendment Bill.

Act Amendment Bill and remarks as follows:—

The opposition of all India has been ignored, and the Bill has been passed into law with the votes of the official members of the Council on its side. The application of this law in times of social and religious quarrels will do more harm than good, but the writer hopes that the necessity for its application will never arise, and it will remain a dead-letter. The Bill, as originally drafted, contained a section empowering Magistrates to grant exemption from the cost of an additional police, and the section was objected to, not because Magistrates were considered wanting in impartiality, but because it was thought that in deciding the question of exemption they would necessarily depend on police reports. The Select Committee sought to improve this section by providing for the exercise of the power of granting exemption by Government instead of by the Magistrate. But the question is, where is the guarantee that the power in question will not be abused by Government, and abused by Government oftener than by the Magistrate? None of the other amendments of the Committee call for any notice. The two non-official European members of the Council, who had objected to the Bill before it was referred to the Select Committee, supported it at the time of its passing, so the five native members

had to fight with sixteen European members, and they deserve the thanks of all India for having persisted to the last in this unequal fight. There was absolutely no necessity for the law, which is more suited to an unsettled country like Upper Burma than to loyal and peaceful India. There can be no doubt as to the mischievous character of the law, and the error which Lord Elgin has committed by allowing it to be enacted is most painful to reflect upon. The redress now lies with the Secretary of State, and let all sections of the Indian public get up protest meetings, and send petitions to His Lordship and Parliament.

34. The *Banganivasi* of the 8th March says that Government has passed the Police Act Amendment Bill in spite of the protests of both the native and the Anglo-Indian community, and of both the native and the Anglo-Indian press, and in utter disregard of the powerful arguments of distinguished members of the Council who opposed it. The writer cannot say what spell or evil advice induced Sir Antony MacDonnell to introduce the Bill, and tarnish his long-standing reputation by getting it passed.

BANGANIVASI,
March 8th, 1895.

The object of the new Act is to increase the already boundless powers of the Magistrates and of the police. It may not be long before the people begin to feel the effect of the extraordinary powers which have been thus conferred on the police and the Magistracy.

The measure will bear with great hardship on the mufassal people, especially as many of its provisions will be quite new to them. The times are very hard indeed; and danger threatens the people at every step.

The Indian's heart is built of iron. It has suffered and borne much and it will suffer and bear more.

35. The *Sudhakar* of the 8th March does not think that it would be very wrong to confine houseless pauper lepers with nobody to care for them in asylums, but it cannot approve of such confinement of every low class leper. As leprosy is an incurable disease, such confinement will amount to imprisonment for life. Difficulties are also likely to occur in ascertaining whether a particular leper is a leper within the meaning of the proposed law. Under these circumstances, it would be well to leave it to the option of lepers whether they will come to an asylum or not. As for lepers carrying on any prohibited trade, they should not be frightened by being arrested, they should be merely prevented from carrying on such trades.

SUDHAKAR,
March 8th, 1895.

36. The *Pratihar* of the 8th March says that, though the Sanitary Drainage Bill provides that drainage improvement for sanitary purposes will be taken up only in places where the District Board will consider such improvement necessary, the provisions of the law will in practice be extended to any place where, in the opinion of the District Magistrate in his capacity of Chairman of the District Board, or in that of the Sanitary Commissioner, they ought to be extended. Not even the opinion of a majority of the members of a District Board can be accepted as the opinion of the people; for a District Board member is not, except for a short time immediately after election, a faithful representative of his electors. There is no provision in the Bill for consulting the opinion of the people who will pay the cess.

PRATIHAR,
March 8th, 1895.

37. Referring to the rejection of the proposed amendment of section 260 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the *Sanjivani* of the 9th March writes as follows:—

SANJIVANI,
March 9th, 1895.

Rejection of the proposed amendment of section 260 of the Code of Civil Procedure. Not to speak of adopting the amendment as it was originally proposed, the Council did not even accept the milder proposal made by Mr. Mehta, with the approval of the two Hindu Judges of the Calcutta High Court, Justices Ghose and Banerji. Mr. Mehta proposed "that no decree for restitution of conjugal rights shall be enforced by imprisonment of the defendant if the Court shall, for any sufficient reasons to be stated in writing on the face of the order, think fit that it shall not be so enforced." One fails to understand how a Hindu could have any objection to this trifling amendment of the law, especially when it is considered that it is opposed to the Hindu Sastras to take back a wife who has suffered incarceration without first making her go through an expiatory ceremony. The Hindus objected to the Consent Act on the ground that it would interfere with their

religion ; but does not the provision of the Civil Procedure Code requiring the imprisonment of a wife who refuses to go to her husband in obedience to a Civil Court decree for restitution of conjugal rights, also interfere with the Hindu religion ? The writer does not see how Babu Mohini Mohun, a Hindu, opposed an amendment which was fully supported by Justices Ghose and Banerji in Bengal, and the late Justice Mathuswami Aiyar in Madras. An amendment of the law was approved by the Governments of Bombay and Hyderabad, and to a certain extent by the Assam Government too. Some native District Judges and other officials too had received the proposal for the amendment with favour.

The main objection to the proposed amendment was that the time for making it had not arrived. But it was rather a curious objection. For, when the provision in the law for the incarceration of a disobedient wife was itself introduced only a few years ago on the sole responsibility of the Legislature and without consultation with the public, it is rather strange that objection should be raised when it is proposed only to amend that innovation. According to the Government of Bengal and some other Administrations the law, as it stands, may not be of any use to the higher classes of Hindus, but it is necessary for the lower ranks of the population. If so, what objection could there be to adopting Mr. Mehta's amendment ? Government could certainly rely on the judgment of its able judiciary for the infliction or non-infliction of imprisonment, as the circumstances of a case might require, without tying down their hands by a hard and fast provision of the law.

Certainly Hindu wives are as much entitled to the protection of the law as Hindu husbands.

DACCA PRAKASH,
March 10th, 1895.

38. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 10th March has the following about the Sanitary Drainage Bill:—

The Sanitary Drainage Bill. The provision of the Bill which requires the owners of mahals to pay the entire cost of the drainage works constructed in those mahals, and leaves them to realise as best as they can from their raiyats the portion of the cost due from them, is very objectionable. In the first place it is doubtful whether the proposed drainage works will in any way increase the value of land. In the second place, supposing the value to increase, as the Bengal Tenancy Act has curtailed the zamindar's powers over land, he is not likely to participate in any material degree in the advantages that may accrue from their increased value. This being the case, it is unjust to make zamindars responsible for the cost of the proposed works, which should be levied from those directly benefited by them. Government has already broken faith with the zamindars by assessing them to the Road and the Public Works cess ; and if it now makes them directly responsible for the collection of a drainage cess, it will simply encompass their ruin by forcing them to have recourse to litigation for the purpose of realising their just dues. Moreover, as village people are now paying a number of taxes directly, there is no reason why they should not be also required to pay the proposed tax directly. With the exception of the above section, the Bill contains no objectionable matter.

DACCA PRAKASH.

39. The same paper says that the provision of the Record-of-Rights Bill which proposes to make zamindars directly responsible for the cost of surveys, and put them to the

necessity of realising afterwards from their raiyats the portion of the cost due from the latter, is perhaps the only objectionable feature in a measure otherwise harmless. The zamindars even now find it difficult to collect from their raiyats the amount of the Road and Public Works cesses due from the latter, and they will be put to great trouble by being required to collect from their raiyats their share of the cost of surveys, which will, in the majority of cases, amount only to some pies annually. Moreover, as zamindars have absolutely no share in any benefit accruing to lands held by tenure-holders, it will be most unjust to throw the cost of the survey upon them in the case of such lands. Government is apparently determined to ruin the zamindars by making them responsible for the collection of a number of taxes.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
March 12th, 1895.

40. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 12th March says that none but veritable Shylocks will object to the Hon'ble Babu Mohini Mohun Roy's Bill relating to the

The Award of Interest Bill.
award of interest.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

41. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th March has the following :—

BANGAVASI,
March 9th, 1895.

The problem of the British administration in India.

Englishmen have ruled India for nearly two centuries, and yet they have been unable to hit upon the right policy to follow in the administration of the country, the policy, that is, which may best promote the welfare of the Indians. And it seems that in this matter they will probably have to grope in the dark for all time like benighted men. Unless the way is clearly marked out for him beforehand, the traveller in a foreign land runs the risk of going astray at almost every step. Now he goes this way and anon that way. He sees a little open space before him and on he goes, but hardly has he advanced a few paces, when he comes across a jungle or a pit or a marsh, and has to retrace his steps. He finds his labour lost, and he comes back to the point from which he started. Thus he moves forwards and backwards, and sits down weary and worn out.

The British Government in India has not yet been able to finally make up its mind as to the policy which it should follow in the administration of the country, in the discharge of its duty of protecting the people and promoting their welfare. Now, in theory this policy was formulated and prescribed long ago and more than once. The way was announced and laid down from time to time even during the days of John Company. After the suppression of the Sepoy mutiny the Queen herself laid down this policy at the advice of her ministers, and the announcement was made that the British Government would extend its protection to all classes impartially and without distinction of colour and creed, and that there would remain no distinction between Englishmen and Indians.

Such, indeed, would be the manner in which roads and routes might be expected to be indicated by a person drawing a map of an unknown country by pure conjecture. But it is the person who uses that road, travels by that route, that finds himself in danger and difficulty. It therefore comes to this, that the route indicated in a map is not always the safest or the most practicable. The traveller must use his own sense and judgment in taking the route he does, and it is only natural that he should sometimes lose his way.

That an intelligent people like the British are even after such a long time unable to learn the true character of the Indians is a result which must be clearly due to the will of Providence, and possibly to the difference in the nature and disposition of the two peoples. If India is to be governed well, Indian opinion must be listened to and the advice of Indian counsellors must be accepted. An English ship safely crosses the great sea, but when the vessel enters into the mouth of a river the captain has to place himself unreservedly under the guidance of the pilot, for it is the pilot and not the captain who knows all about the river, and what is true of the ship is also true of the vessel of State.

The British captains of this vessel of State, however, all consider themselves pilots as well. Self-reliance is of course a good quality, but it is not good or commendable at all times. It is not wise to play the leader in all cases, and it is not unoften that a traveller finds himself in danger, unless he has a guide to help him.

Now, it is admitted on all hands that the British officials are all willing and anxious to make the Indians happy and contented by means of good government. But there is one fault which often causes well-meant efforts to produce injurious consequences, converts nectar into poison, and makes medical treatment the cause of the aggravation instead of the cure of a disease. To Englishmen, India is a foreign country and its people are strangers, who possess a nature and disposition and who follow a religion different from theirs. And yet the rulers are not willing to accept the advice of the Indians, from a fear that they will go wrong if they do so. Distrust is the root of the whole mischief. The rulers will never take the advice of the natives. Even good advice given by natives is regarded by the officials as bad advice. Hence it is that everything which is done by the authorities produces untoward consequences, and their well-meant efforts prove injurious. To the completest ignorance is added distrust; and the result is that the rulers are always floundering, and find

it necessary to alter and amend their laws and regulations and orders and circulars at every turn; and the treatment which is being resorted to is such as only a quack will follow. Instead of seeking to remove the true cause of the disease, the quack is only prescribing medicine after medicine just as one symptom is making room for another. In trying to alleviate one symptom of the disease, the official quack is creating a dozen others.

The officials have lost their way and are on the wrong track, and yet they think themselves infallible. This self-sufficiency is the root of the whole evil. A quack doctor is the best and truest colleague and coadjutor of death. The patient is delirious, nay boisterous. The doctor, who is unable to see this, thinks that the patient is a rampant *budmash* and is frantically casting about his hands and legs simply to spite and strike him; and forthwith this quack, this veterinary surgeon, brings out his cord and branding iron. The patient is bound and branded until he writhes and groans in agony. But this is refractoriness, rebellion, says the quack. It is rebellion of this sort that is seen on all sides in India.

URIYA PAPERS.

42. The death of the Hon'ble Sir T. Mathuswami Aiyar, K.C.I.E., the late Judge of the Madras High Court, is mourned by all the native papers of Orissa.

43. The decision of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces regarding the substitution of *Hindi* in the place of *Uriya* as the Court language in the Courts of the district of Sambalpur in that province is bitterly complained of by all the native papers of Orissa, on the ground that Sambalpur is a Uriya-speaking district which once formed part of the Cuttack district after its conquest by the British.

UTKALDIPKA,
Feb 9th, 1895.

44. The *Utkaldipika* of the 9th February has reason to believe that certain Assistant Settlement Officers in Orissa compel parties to attach court-fee stamps to their both objection-statements, and that this procedure is not warranted by the law on the subject.

SAMVADVAHIKA
Feb. 7th, 1895.

45. The *Samvadvaika* of the 7th February objects to the appointment of those members of the Text-Book Committees in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, who are personally interested in the sale of their own books.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 16th March 1895.